

Referral review completed by NIMA 3/1/01

MCGWG-M-49

5 JAN 1970

COMIREX MAPPING, CHARTING AND GEODESY WORKING GROUP

IMAGERY COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS SUB COMMITTEE

Minutes of Joint Meeting Held in Room 2D921

Pentagon

1400 Hours, 5 December 1969

PRESIDING



Attendance included most of the regular members and consultants of the ICRS and MCGWG

1. Purpose of Meeting.

To discuss what steps could be taken to place increased emphasis on Mission 1108 collection of KH-4 photography for MC&G purposes.

2. KH-4 Coverage for Mission 1108 for MC&G Purposes.

a. In the way of background, the DIA Member of the MCGWG had presented the DoD problem of gaps in KH-4 coverage outside the Sino Soviet to members of COMIREX, ICRS, and MCGWG during latter part of November and early part of December. On 4 December 1969 Chairman of the MCGWG forwarded a memo to Chairman COMIREX recommending for Mission 1108 that ICRS be instructed to place increased emphasis on collection for MC&G purposes outside the Sino Soviet area and that ICRS and representatives of the MCGWG work together to establish the most efficient use of the film of Mission 1108 in light of the increased emphasis. The Chairman COMIREX accepted these recommendations and asked that the Chairman ICRS and Chairman MCGWG quickly arrange a joint meeting to discuss what steps could be taken.

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* Ch COMIREX does not agree that there has been a reduction in emphasis; rather that it is getting to be increasingly difficult to collect efficiently against known areas.

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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b. [REDACTED] reiterated and explained the overall problem of gaps in the KH-4 coverage outside the Sino Soviet pointing out the major problems to current DoD production for medium scale maps and charts and general support of tactical operations in contingency areas. [REDACTED] summed up the specific coverage requirements related to current stereo production of TOPOCOM and ACIC encompassing Latin America, Near East, West Africa and South Africa. It was pointed out that the total 1st priority area in which the gaps are located, amounted to about 4,200,000 square statute miles. Coverage was on hand for about 65% of this area but because of slivers and gaps scattered throughout the area, complete coverage was on hand for less than 35% of the map-chart areas currently in production.

c. [REDACTED] of NRO described the recent analysis made by NRO indicating that the problem of filling gaps was very difficult and that it was necessary to use a relatively high amount of film for a relatively small net gain in square miles where narrow long slivers are involved. The group recognized that net square miles was not a good indication of the value received but that credit would better be recognized in terms of map-chart sheets completed. It was agreed that TOPOCOM would propose different methods for identifying coverage for MC&G purposes. [REDACTED] mentioned that analysis by his office indicated that an estimate of 98 1/2% of the film of the next 5 KH-4B missions would be needed to complete 81% of the gaps in the 4,200,000 square statute mile area. However in the refinement work being done by his office he expected that these figures would be a bit more favorable.

d. [REDACTED] specifically indicated that the MCGWG would like to see a percent much greater than 5% for MC&G coverage outside the Sino Soviet. [REDACTED] commented on the overall high priority intelligence requirements and the stretchout of the KH-4 program. Because of high priority intelligence requirements he indicated that whatever film was used for MC&G purposes should be an efficient application. [REDACTED] raised the question as to why it was necessary to consider any specific percent of film and that the problem seemed to be increased emphasis still making efficient use of the film. In the discussion it was recognized that from the analysis made by NRO there was very little loss in efficiency of film use up to approximately 20% but beyond this point one could expect a relatively inefficient use. Since there had been discussion as to whether there might be more important areas within the overall 1st priority areas [REDACTED] commented that there was not a great distinction among the 1st priority areas and accordingly weather should be primary factor for all 1st priority areas. However, on the theoretical basis that weather was the same in all 1st priority areas, the overall DoD priority within the 1st priority area would be in order: Near East, West Africa and then Latin America and South Africa.

e. [REDACTED] said he could not make any commitment but his committee would carefully watch how coverage was collected during the mission against priority objectives and would do what they could, in view of overall priorities, to increase the coverage for MC&G.

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f. In general it was concluded that ICRS fully understood the MC&G requirement and that mission 1108 would be followed closely by ICRS with the objective of increasing the MC&G coverage when it could be done efficiently.

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Chairman
COMIREX MC&G Working Group

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